

Message Text

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DRAFTED BY ARA/CAR:TJCHEAVNER/BTK

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ARA;WHLUERS (SUBS)

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN PRIORITY

AMCONSUL CURACAO PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY KINGSTON PRIORITY

AMCONSUL MARTINIQUE PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY NASSAU PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY PARAMARIBO PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY PORT AU PRINCE PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 233690

SAN JOSE FOR AXELROD (LABOR CONFERENCE)

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OCON, XL

SUBJECT: GRIEVANCE LEGISLATION WORKSHOP; SIDE SEMINAR ON
CARIBBEAN PROBLEMS

REF: STATE 228703

1. AS INDICATED REFTEL, PRESENCE OF CARIBBEAN MISSION
OFFICERS IN WASHINGTON FOR GRIEVANCE WORKSHOP OFFERS
OPPORTUNITY FOR DISCUSSION OTHER CARIBBEAN PROBLEMS.
WE PLAN DEVOTE MORNING OF SEPTEMBER 24 TO AN INFORMAL
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DISCUSSION ON THE CARIBBEAN, TO BE ATTENDED BY INTERESTED

DEPARTMENT OFFICERS AS WELL AS VISITING EMBASSY AND CONSULATE REPRESENTATIVES. (AFTERNOON SEPTEMBER 24 WILL BE FREE FOR CONSULTATIONS.)

2. ASSISTANT SECRETARY SHLAUDEMAN AND/OR DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY LUERS WILL OPEN INFORMAL DISCUSSION SESSION WITH REMARKS ON GENERAL ARA POLICIES AND PROBLEMS AS APPLIED TO THE CARIBBEAN. MEETING WILL BEGIN AT 9:00 A.M. SHARP IN ARA CONFERENCE ROOM.

3. WE WOULD LIKE TO FOCUS DISCUSSION ON NO MORE THAN THREE CARIBBEAN PROBLEM AREAS. WE HAVE IN MIND: (A) ECONOMIC PROBLEMS OF THE AREA, WITH EMPHASIS ON UNEMPLOYMENT AND PROSPECTS FOR THE EMERGING MINI STATES; (B) DESTABILIZATION CHARGES, WITH EMPHASIS ON THE LONG-TERM IMPACT ON US/CARIBBEAN RELATIONS, AND (C) REGIONALISM, FUTURE PROSPECTS AND PRESENT REALITIES. EMPHASIS IN DISCUSSING ALL THREE WILL BE ON US POLICY AND INTERESTS.

4. REALIZE TIME IS SHORT FOR ADEQUATE ADVANCE PREPARATION. HOWEVER, WE WOULD APPRECIATE PARTICIPANTS GATHERING THEIR THOUGHTS ON ABOVE TOPICS AND ANY RELATED MATTERS THEY WISH TO DISCUSS. WE HOPE TO OPEN EACH TOPIC WITH A 10-MINUTE STATEMENT BY ONE PARTICIPANT, AND WOULD WELCOME VOLUNTEERS. OPENING PRESENTATIONS WILL BE FOLLOWED BY APPROXIMATELY ONE-HALF HOUR OF DISCUSSION ON EACH TOPIC.

5. POST COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS WELCOME. REQUEST VOLUNTEER DISCUSSION LEADERS CABLE THEIR WILLINGNESS LEAD OFF DISCUSSIONS. ROBINSON

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